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Colby, Wm.
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Terris III

Must Exert Influence Abroad, Colby Asserts

United Press International

WASHINGTON—CIA Director William E. Colby said yesterday that U. S. intelligence should continue trying to influence situations abroad although it committed some misdeeds in the past.

He said Congress was partly responsible for the mistakes because it disliked admitting that few United States needed an intelligence system.

Colby, speaking to the Pacem in Terris (peace on earth) conference, said he supported congressional efforts to make intelligence agencies "responsible" in the future and to prevent them from violating the rights of Americans at home.

He also warned lawmakers not to cut off "the capability of intelligence quietly to influence foreign situations (which) can—and has—contributed to peace."

"The members of Congress who said they did not want to know of our activities, the careful circumlocutions used in the directives developed for intelligence—these effected a consensus that while intelligence was needed to protect America, America was unwilling to admit its

use of intelligence," Colby said.

"As a result, intelligence made some mistakes and did some misdeeds."

Defending U. S. covert activities abroad, Colby said "In a number of instances, some quiet assistance to democratic and friendly elements enabled them to resist hostile and authoritarian groups in an internal competition over the future direction of their countries."

"Postwar Western Europe resisted Communist political subversion and Latin America rejected Cuban-stimulated insurgency."

Colby proposed three steps toward a more "responsible" U. S. intelligence system:

- Better guidelines on what it can and cannot do. "We will ensure that it is focused on foreign intelligence, and does not infringe the rights of our citizens."

- Better supervision by the executive branch, Congress and, where necessary, the judiciary.

- Seeing that when CIA has a legitimate secret it is kept and not leaked to the public.